

Madame Daeniker's film show

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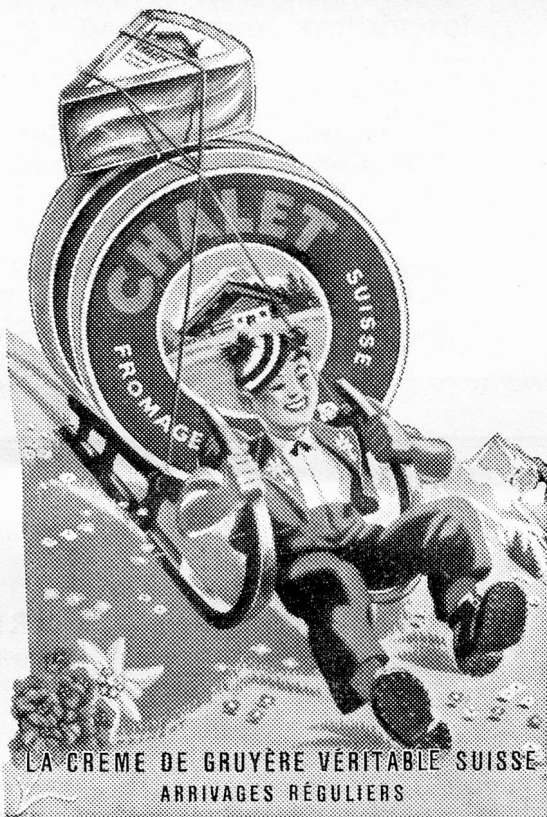
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MADAME DAENIKER'S FILM SHOW.

The Nouvelle Société Helvétique had a record attendance at its last meeting on February 28th — the first of this year. It was held in the Banqueting Hall at the Bush House Restaurant — the first time that one of our societies ventured there to forgather, and not to its disadvantage! Remembering the embarrassment of not being able to offer seating accommodation to all comers on popular occasions the N.S.H. wisely sought a larger hall for the talk and the film show to be given by Madame Armin Daeniker, wife of our Minister. The Colony did not miss the opportunity of honouring Madame Daeniker by turning up in force for her *début* in our midst as lecturer and camera woman. It would be difficult to think who of the better known Swiss of London was not there. And no one went away disappointed.

In a delightfully free and easy manner, Madame Daeniker talked of India, Nepal and Siam and the teeming populations of these sunny countries where our present Minister was accredited as Minister for Switzerland during the first years of independence. Without hiding the seamy side of the life of the eternally impoverished millions Madame Daeniker painted nevertheless a lively and gay picture of life in these countries of contrasts between rich and poor, wise and ignorant, cultured and primitive. With a woman's finesse, an unbiased Swiss judgement and an artistic eye Madame Daeniker picked out from this kaleidoscopic life and a landscape what struck her most as typical or beautiful. The audience was taken all over the sub-continent — to Agra, Benares, Calcutta, Bangkok and Nepal. The great ovation showed the speaker how much both her talk and her films were appreciated.

After the Meeting the N.S.H. had arranged as usual to entertain the speaker to dinner in a small circle. But over 50 had applied to share in it, many at the last moment, and yet the Bush House Restaurant turned out a most excellent meal served with perfect courtesy and efficiency. Our countryman Mr. A. Widmer was thanked for his unsparing efforts on behalf of the speaker, the N.S.H. and the Colony most cordially both by the Minister and the chairman.

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